



# St John's, Stoneleigh Weekly Newsletter 11<sup>th</sup> August 2024

## A MESSAGE FROM REV. GEOFF ANDREW

It was wonderful to see so many in church last week as we gathered as one congregation at 10am. At last week's service, I announced that during 'all together August' we would alternate between our 9.30am Communion style of worship and the more informal 11am style. Last week was informal so this week, we will have Chris playing the organ and I shall be robed! I really want to encourage you to come whichever service you usually attend. This month is a wonderful time for fellowship and a chance to meet people you would not normally see. Speaking of fellowship, do come along to the church BBQ in the Vicarage garden from 12 noon on Sunday. It's a bring & share event but please come whether you have food to share or not. There will be plenty to go round I'm sure.

*Rev. Geoff Andrew*

## NO ZOOM ON SUNDAY 11<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST

Please note that there will be no Zoom facilities today.

*Tim Rogers*

## DECORATING BACK OF CHURCH

I'd greatly appreciate help during the month of August to decorate the back of the church. 17<sup>th</sup> August to be set aside for preparation work. 27<sup>th</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> August for actual painting. Please email: [adrian.coppin@talktalk.net](mailto:adrian.coppin@talktalk.net) or WhatsApp Adrian with any dates you could help with painting - book case, walls and ceiling. WhatsApp 07831 470846

*Adrian Coppin*

## AUGUST SERVICES AND REFRESHMENTS

With much hard work by Adrian Coppin, St John's has received the Faculty to go ahead with the refurbishment of the back of the Church. To facilitate this, we will be holding refreshments after the 10am service in the hall, rather than at the back of Church, for the month of August.

*Social Committee*

## MESSAGES FOR CHURCH WARDENS

We are resurrecting the message book for the church wardens. It is a green file on the table by the glass doors. If you notice a bulb gone, a fault with any equipment or any other fabric problem, please note it in the file with your name and date so that we can deal with it promptly. Many thanks.

*Adrian and Claire*

## SIMON MORRISON, ORGANIST

Simon Morrison has been playing the organ for us every third Sunday for the past couple of years. He has decided it is now time to step down in order to reduce his personal commitments. We would like to thank Simon for his contribution to our Sunday worship and also wish him and his wife, Jane, all the best for the future. We will be looking into the possibility of replacing Simon but in the meantime we will use the on-screen hymns as we do on first Sundays.

*Rev Geoff Andrew*

## SUMMER SERVICE SCHEDULE

All Sundays in August; one service at 10am. Theme: Summer Psalms. Rev Geoff (Aug 25<sup>th</sup> Rev Ken Hobbs)

*Rev. Geoff Andrew*

## MECHANICS FOR AFRICA

In August, Ken and Margaret Hobbs are cycling coast to coast on behalf of Zambia Christian charity Mechanics for Africa and are inviting sponsorship. If anyone is interested in supporting them, go to: [www.justgiving.com](http://www.justgiving.com) and search for Mechanics for Africa and you will see Ken's fundraiser. *Rev. Geoff Andrew*

## UKRAINE CRISIS APPEAL

The people of Ukraine urgently need: baby formula (all ages), wet wipes, nappies (all sizes), long life baby food, baby toiletries, adult toiletries (shaving gel, soap, shower gel) sanitary items, long life food, bandages, plasters and painkillers.

You can also donate online at [whiteeagleappeal.org](http://whiteeagleappeal.org) or bring cheques payable to Shelly Wieczorek. If you want to give cash, please mark your envelope "Ukraine".

*Shelly, Ukrainian Refugee*

## FIRE DRILL

There will be a fire drill after the service on 11th August.

*Church Wardens*

## ST MARY THE VIRGIN, CHESSINGTON

St Mary's Chessington will be celebrating 850 years at the heart of the Chessington Community. You are invited to visit the Church on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> September from 10.00am – 4.00pm to view historical artefacts. This is a gift day for the church.

There will be a celebratory thanksgiving service to mark the 850<sup>th</sup> anniversary on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> September at 5.00pm. All welcome to both events.

## FOODBANK

This week they need: Cooking Sauces, Dried Noodles (not pot or instant), Long Life Juice, Tinned Potatoes, Tinned Vegetables, Tinned Meat, Pulses, Sugar, Honey, Biscuits, Long life Sponge puddings, Ketchup/Brown Sauce/Mayonnaise, Washing up Liquid, Nappies 5, 6+ & 7 .

They urgently need: Male Deodorant, Shower gel, and Washing Powder

Strong shopper bags and bags for life are always useful.

*The Foodbank Team*

## **BIBLE READING RESOURCES**

It has been a joy in the run up to our exhibition on August 18th (make a note in your diaries that you want to linger a little longer over coffee this week) to discover the Bible Reading Resources used by so many people in our congregation. This week Claire Cornell has lent me a copy of her quarterly magazine Word for Today which is produced by United Christian Broadcasters. She was introduced to it by Ken Hobbs and she likes these notes because you get "not just a quote from The Bible but also a reflection that is very relevant to life".

You can access Word For Today by getting it (free of charge in the UK) by post four times a year or by email each morning. Furthermore United Christian Broadcasters have a web site, UCB.co.uk and a radio station - download the UCB Player app.

Does anyone know of somewhere which may have a 'peg and hook' display board and some display hooks we could borrow for a weekend?  
***Will Porter and Polly Elder***

## **Today's Services**

Many of you will have been watching your TV screens over the past week or more with a mixture of anger, sadness and fear at the terrible violence that has been unfolding in towns and cities across the country. It can shake our faith in the rule of law and the stability of society. Psalm 46 is an antidote to fear and an encouragement to have faith in our Almighty God. It speaks of God as our refuge in turbulent times and his promise to break the bows and spears of war. Those great words, 'Be still and know that I am God' offer confidence and hope that we are in safe hands. *This week is also a Prayers for Healing service.*

## **Collect**

God of glory, the end of our searching, help us to lay aside all that prevents us from seeking your kingdom, and to give all that we have to gain the pearl beyond all price, through our Savior Jesus Christ.

## **First Reading**

### **Psalm 46**

***Maggie Savill***

- <sup>1</sup> God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.
- <sup>2</sup> Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea,
- <sup>3</sup> though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging<sup>1</sup>
- <sup>4</sup> There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy place where the Most High dwells.
- <sup>5</sup> God is within her, she will not fall; God will help her at break of day.
- <sup>6</sup> Nations are in uproar, kingdoms fall; he lifts his voice, the earth melts.
- <sup>7</sup> The LORD Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.
- <sup>8</sup> Come and see what the LORD has done, the desolations he has brought on the earth.
- <sup>9</sup> He makes wars cease to the ends of the earth. He breaks the bow and shatters the spear; he burns the shields with fire.
- <sup>10</sup> He says, 'Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth.'
- <sup>11</sup> The LORD Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.

## **Gospel Reading**

### **Matthew 24:42-51**

<sup>42</sup> 'Therefore keep watch, because you do not know on what day your Lord will come. <sup>43</sup> But understand this: if the owner of the house had known at what time of night the thief was coming, he would have kept watch and would not have let his house be broken into. <sup>44</sup> So you also must be ready, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect him. <sup>45</sup> 'Who then is the faithful and wise servant, whom the master has put in charge of the servants in his household to give them their food at the proper time? <sup>46</sup> It will be good for that servant whose master finds him doing so when he returns. <sup>47</sup> Truly I tell you, he will put him in charge of all his possessions. <sup>48</sup> But suppose that servant is wicked and says to himself, "My master is staying away a long time," <sup>49</sup> and he then begins to beat his fellow servants and to eat and drink with drunkards. <sup>50</sup> The master of that servant will come on a day when he does not expect him and at an hour he is not aware of. <sup>51</sup> He will cut him to pieces and assign him a place with the hypocrites, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

## **Intercessor**

***Chris Redrup***

## **Music**

1. To God be the Glory (MP 708)
2. Christ is made the sure foundation (MP 73) 1,2,4,5
3. Be Still for the Presence of the Lord (MP 50)
4. *During communion:* Let us break bread together (MP 414)
5. In Christ Alone (MP 1072)